

**OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON**

June 16, 1983

MEMORANDUM TO PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICERS

FROM: Meredith Armstrong *ma*

RE: Background Materials for NNBIS Operation

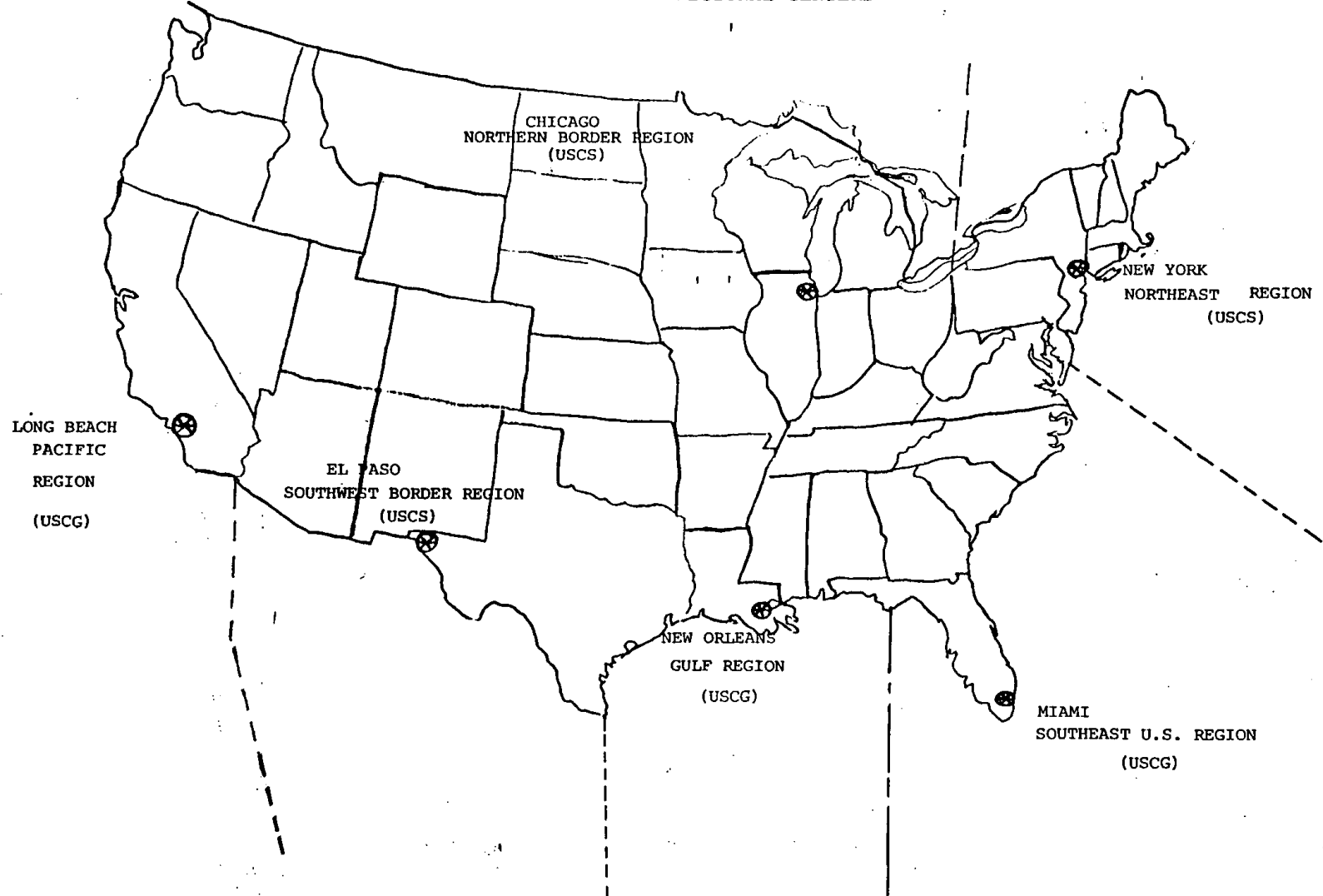
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Attached are the materials we have discussed for the Vice President's speech at the National Press Club for Friday, June 17th. Please note that any materials marked draft have not gone through final approval; however, they are close enough that we feel comfortable sending them out to you. If there are any questions or press calls you prefer not to answer, please call me at 456-6772.

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17 JUNE 1983

ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL CENTERS



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NEW YORK

Coordinator: Dennis Snyder  
Regional Commissioner of Customs  
Region II, New York

Deputy Coordinator: Capt. Paul Welling  
Chief of Operations (SAR)  
Third Coast Guard District  
Governors Island, New York

MIAMI

Coordinator: RADM. Donald C. Thompson  
Commander  
Seventh Coast Guard District  
Miami, Florida

Deputy Coordinator: Bill Mason  
Assistant Regional Commissioner (Enforcement)  
U.S. Customs Region IV, Miami

NEW ORLEANS

Coordinator: RADM. William H. Stewart  
Commander  
Eighth Coast Guard District  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Deputy Coordinator: Neil Lagerman  
Asst. Regional Commissioner for Enforcement  
U.S. Customs, Region IV  
New Orleans, Louisiana

EL PASO

Coordinator: Horace Cavett  
Area Special Agent in Charge  
U.S. Customs  
El Paso, Texas

LONG BEACH

Coordinator: RADM. Frederick P. Schubert  
Commander  
Eleventh Coast Guard District  
Long Beach, California

Deputy Coordinator: William J. Meglen  
Asst. Regional Commissioner  
U.S. Customs Service  
Los Angeles, California

CHICAGO

Coordinator: Peter Dispenzirie  
Regional Commissioner of Customs  
Region IX  
Chicago, Illinois

Deputy Coordinator: Capt. Lloyd Burger  
Chief  
Coast Guard Marine Safety Office  
Chicago, Illinois

March 23, 1983

The President today announced the formation of the National Narcotics Border Interdiction System (NNBIS) to interdict the flow of narcotics into the United States. NNBIS will be headed by Vice President George Bush. There will be an Executive Board which will include the Secretaries of State, Treasury, Defense and Transportation, the Attorney General, the Counsellor to the President, the Director of Central Intelligence, and the Director of the White House Drug Abuse Policy Office.

Designed to coordinate the work of those federal agencies with existing responsibilities and capabilities for interdiction of sea-borne, air-borne and cross-border importation of narcotics, NNBIS will complement but not replicate the duties of the regional Drug Enforcement Task Forces operated by the Department of Justice.

NNBIS will monitor suspected smuggling activity originating outside national borders and destined for the United States, and will coordinate agencies' seizure of contraband and arrests of persons involved in illegal drug importation.

President Reagan emphasized that the creation of this new system will strengthen the national drug enforcement effort, saying, "We must have a program that will relentlessly pursue the drug smugglers wherever and however they try to bring illegal drugs into our country. Paraphrasing Joe Lewis, they can run but they will not be allowed to hide. Working together, we can drive drug smugglers out of the United States -- and out

of business."

The Coordinating Board for NNBIS will be headed by Admiral Daniel J. Murphy, Chief of Staff to the Vice President, who has chaired the Working Group of the South Florida Drug Task Force, also under Vice President Bush. The Coordinating Board membership will be composed of ranking officials from the Departments of State, Defense, Treasury, Justice, Transportation, Central Intelligence and their subordinate agencies and offices.

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NATIONAL NARCOTICS BORDER INTERDICTION SYSTEM

EXECUTIVE BOARD

THE VICE PRESIDENT

Secretary of State

Secretary of the Treasury

Secretary of Defense

The Attorney General

Secretary of Transportation

Counsellor to the President

Director of Central Intelligence

Director, Drug Abuse Policy Office

NATIONAL NARCOTICS BORDER INTERDICTION SYSTEM

COORDINATION BOARD

Admiral Daniel J. Murphy, Chairman and Chief of Staff to the VP

John Marsh - Secretary of the Army

John Lehman - Secretary of the Navy

Vern Orr - Secretary of the Air Force

Admiral James Gracey - Commandant of the Coast Guard

John McMahon - Deputy Director, CIA

Lowell Jensen - Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division

Judge William Webster - Director, FBI

Dominick DiCarlo - Assistant Secretary of State for International  
Narcotics Matters

John Walker - Assistant Secretary of Treasury for Enforcement

William von Raab - Commissioner of Customs

Alan Nelson - Commissioner, Immigration & Naturalization Service

Bud Mullen - Administrator, DEA

J. Lynn Helms - Administrator, FAA

Stephen Higgins - (Acting) Director, ATF

Dan Leonard - Deputy Director, Drug Abuse Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Drug Abuse Policy Office

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 17, 1983

FACT SHEET

DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVES

The National Narcotics Border Interdiction System (NNBIS) is the latest in a series of drug law enforcement initiatives directed at reducing the availability of illicit drugs in the United States.

The Reagan Administration has increased the overall effectiveness of drug law enforcement by bringing all available Federal, State and local resources and expertise to bear on the full spectrum of drug trafficking and related criminal activities.

On January 21, 1982, the Attorney General assigned to the Federal Bureau of Investigation concurrent jurisdiction with the Drug Enforcement Administration to investigate drug law offenses and assigned to the Director of the FBI general supervision over drug law enforcement efforts and policies.

In July 1981, there were 12 cooperative FBI/DEA investigations; today there are over 427 underway. The number of court authorized wiretaps increased 178 percent between 1981 and 1982. The value of trafficker assets seized has increased from \$94 million in 1980 to \$161 million in 1982.

The Reagan Administration was the first to encourage and support an aggressive national Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program. Coordinated by DEA, the program has expanded from 6 States in 1981 to 40 States in 1983. In 1982 with 26 States participating, 2.5 million plants were destroyed and 2,512 violators were arrested.

Working together in the drug law enforcement effort are seven Federal agencies with law enforcement authority, prosecutors, U.S. military personnel, and State and local officials. The South Florida Task Force, created by President Reagan on January 28, 1982 and headed by Vice President Bush, is an outstanding example of cooperation and of the U.S. commitment to stop drug trafficking and related crime.

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The South Florida experience is a model for two major national initiatives. The criminal investigation aspects are mirrored in 12 Organized Crime/Drug Enforcement (OCDE) Task Forces. The drug interdiction effort is expanded in the new National Narcotics Border Interdiction System (NNBIS).

The Organized Crime/Drug Enforcement Task Forces were announced by President Reagan on October 14, 1982 as part of a major program headed by the Attorney General to combat drug trafficking by organized crime. The OCDE Task Forces are now operational in 12 key areas throughout the country to investigate and prosecute major organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking.

The National Narcotics Border Interdiction System, with an Executive Board chaired by Vice President Bush, was created by President Reagan on March 23, 1983 to combat drug smuggling around the borders of the United States from six regional offices.

On March 16, 1983, President Reagan forwarded to Congress the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1983. The significant legislative proposal includes reform of the bail laws, comprehensive reforms in Federal forfeiture laws, and sentencing reform.

Law Enforcement Coordinating Committees (LECC's) have been established by the Attorney General in 91 of the 94 Federal judicial districts. The heads of Federal, State and local prosecutorial and law enforcement agencies in the area are members and work together to focus all available resources on the most serious crime problems in each district. Indeed, each LECC has identified drug trafficking as the single most serious problem facing all levels of law enforcement.

These major initiatives are reinforced by U.S. military assistance, international cooperative investigations, refined intelligence collection and dissemination, an expanded training program, innovative programs to control the diversion of drugs from legitimate commerce, and a spirit of cooperation and commitment at all levels.

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